

**CLAIMS**

*The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.*

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) A portable user operated polyphonic button-field electronic music controller including:

at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in a substantially two-dimensional first zone actuated by at least one finger of a user's first hand to generate at least one note identifier output used to create one or more musical notes, each of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in said first zone arranged to be actuatable by at least one finger of said user's first hand; and

at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device in a second zone actuated by said user's thumb on said first hand to generate at least one per-field effect value output;

wherein the arrangement of said first and second zones allows simultaneous actuation of a plurality of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons simultaneous with the actuation of said at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device.

27. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 26 wherein at least one said thumb actuated per-field effect value input device is multi-variate.

28. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 26 wherein, when playing at least one of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons with said at least one finger of said first hand, any of said at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input devices can be reached with the thumb of said first hand.

29. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 26 wherein at least one of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons further generates note-actuation variable values.

30. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 29 wherein said note-actuation variables are mapped to musical effects such as volume, pitch bending, brightness, portamento time, and/or reverb depth.

31. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 26 wherein said thumb actuated per-field effect value input device is a slider, dial, proximity sensor, joystick, or touch pad.

32. (New) A portable user operated polyphonic button-field electronic music controller including:

at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in a substantially two-dimensional first zone actuated by at least one finger of a user's left hand to generate at least one note identifier output used to create one or more musical notes, each of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in said first zone arranged to be actuatable by at least one finger of said user's left hand; and

at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device in a second zone actuated by said user's thumb on said left hand to generate at least one per-field effect value output;

wherein the arrangement of said first and second zones allows simultaneous actuation of a plurality of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in said first zone simultaneous with the actuation of at least one of said at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device in said second zone by said left hand of said user;

said controller further including:

at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in a substantially two-dimensional third zone actuated by at least one finger of a user's right hand to generate at least one note identifier output used to create one or more musical notes, each of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in said third zone arranged to be actuatable by at least one finger of said user's right hand; and

at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device in a fourth zone actuated by said user's thumb on said right hand to generate at least one per-field effect value output;

wherein the arrangement of said third and fourth zones allows simultaneous actuation of a plurality of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons in said third zone simultaneous with the actuation of at least one of said at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input device in said fourth zone by said right hand of said user.

33. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 32 wherein at least one said thumb actuated per-field effect value input device is multi-variate.

34. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 32 wherein, when playing at least one of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons with said at least one finger of a given hand, any of said at least one thumb actuated per-field effect value input devices can be reached with the thumb of said given hand.

35. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 32 wherein at least one of said at least five finger actuated note identifier input buttons further generates note-actuation variable values such as key velocity, polyphonic aftertouch, or channel pressure.

36. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 35 wherein said note-actuation variable values are mapped to musical effect values such as volume, pitch bending, brightness, portamento time, and/or reverb depth.

37. (New) A controller as claimed in claim 32 wherein said thumb actuated per-field effect value input device is a slider, dial, proximity sensor, joystick, or touch pad.